

RICHARD G. RHODA Executive Director

## STATE OF TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

PHIL BREDESEN Governor

PARKWAY TOWERS, SUITE 1900

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0830
(615) 741-3605

FAX: (615) 741-6230

www.state.tn.us/thec/

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

State Funding Board

From:

David L. Wright

Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Tim Phelps / \_\_\_

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation

Date:

May 1, 2009

Subject:

Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program Projections

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) and Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC) have collaborated to provide the following information regarding lottery-related financial assistance. Pursuant to Tennessee Code 4-51-111(c)(2)(a), the purpose is to give an overview of estimated awards and expenditures for the current and coming academic year.

These figures incorporate data for all lottery-funded programs, including the HOPE Scholarship, General Assembly Merit Scholarship, ASPIRE Award, HOPE Access Grant, Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant, Nontraditional Student Grant, Dual Enrollment Grant, Helping Heroes Grant, Foster Child Tuition Grant, Rural Health Loan Forgiveness Program, Math & Science Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program, and Tennessee Student Assistance Award.

Our expenditure estimate for 2008-09 remains unchanged from the figure we provided the Funding Board on December 3, 2008.

2008-09 Estimated Number of awards: 88,000 Total Cost - \$266.0 million

Our projection for 2009-10 is revised slightly upward from the \$274 million figure presented on December 3.

2009-10 Projected Number of awards - 97,000 Total Cost - \$276.5 million The 2009-10 projection is based on an assumption of 3% growth in expenditures for base programs and variable increases in other programs such as Wilder-Naifeh, Dual Enrollment, and the HOPE Access Grant. Our projection model contains the following assumptions for 2009-2010:

- 1) very little growth in the number of public and private high school graduates;
- 2) no change in current college participation rates;
- 3) continuation of the recent increase observed in scholarship renewal rates.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact either of us.

cc: M. David Goetz, Commissioner, Finance & Administration Tre Hargett, Secretary of State David Lillard, Treasurer Justin Wilson, Comptroller of the Treasury